

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for forming large-dimension ceramic tiles, comprising the following operative stages:

- a. feeding a determined quantity of powders into the mould cavity of a first pressing station,
- b. pressing said quantity of powders to obtain a slab of consistent material, the thickness of which is reduced by a quantity between 20 and 40%,
- c. feeding said slab to at least one decorating station, which controlledly deposits at least a second layer of powders,
- d. feeding said decorated slab to a second pressing station,
- e. pressing the decorated slab.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that wherein the first pressing takes place at a pressure preferably between about 50 and about 100 kg/cm².

3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that wherein said second pressing takes place at a pressure preferably between about 300 and about 500 kg/cm².

4. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, characterised by further comprising adjusting the orientation of said slab relative to its direction of

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advancement such that a longitudinal axis of said slab coincides with a longitudinal axis of a carriage which said slab is carried.

5-10. (Cancelled)